

House Resolution No.

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives feel it is altogether fitting and proper to pause from time to time to recognize individuals and organizations that have contributed to the welfare of this great state and its citizens; and

Whereas, the Raytown Parents as Teachers Association is celebrating 35 years of hosting their Legislative Forums; and

Whereas, the Legislative Forums were begun in 1972 under superintendent Joseph Herndon; and

Whereas, the Legislative Forums are open to all members of the community and legislators are available to answer any questions; and

Whereas, the concept for Parents as Teachers was developed in the 1970s when Missouri educators noted that children were beginning kindergarten with varying levels of learning readiness, and research showed that greater family involvement in children's learning is a critical link in the child's development of academic skills, including reading and writing; and

Whereas, early childhood professionals suggested that a program to help parents understand their role in encouraging their child's development right from birth could help prepare children for school and life success, and such a program, available to all families, would help level the playing field for all children; and

Whereas, with funding from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and The Danforth Foundation, Parents as Teachers began in 1981 in Missouri as a pilot project for first-time parents of newborns; and

Whereas, convinced of the program's benefits and cost effectiveness, state funding was provided in 1985 to implement the PAT program in all Missouri school districts, and since 1985, Parents as Teachers has expanded to all 50 states and to other countries:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to extend our congratulations to the Raytown Parents as Teachers Association and its observing 35 years of hosting their Legislative Forums; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the Raytown Parents as Teachers Association.

Offered by _____
Representative Will Kraus, No. 48

Representative Leonard (Jonas) Hughes, IV, No. 42

Representative Craig Bland, No. 43

Representative Terry Young, No. 49

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. , adopted April 18, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker